

BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
FOR THE STATE OF ARKANSAS

IN THE MATTER OF:

JARED COOK
PETITIONER

A.I.D. NO. 2020- 59

ORDER

On this day, the matter of the insurance producer license application of Mr. Jared Cook ("Petitioner") came before Alan McClain, Arkansas Insurance Commissioner ("Commissioner"). A hearing was held on September 22, 2020, in the Fifth Floor Hearing Room of the Arkansas Insurance Department ("Department") pursuant to the Notice of Hearing dated September 10, 2020. The hearing was held before Chief Deputy Commissioner Russ Galbraith ("Hearing Officer") pursuant to his appointment by the Commissioner in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 23-61-103(e)(1). The Department was represented by Gray Allen Turner, Associate Counsel. The Petitioner participated by telephone.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner, a resident of Garland County, Arkansas, applied for an insurance producer license on August 28, 2020.
2. The Department denied Petitioner's application on September 2, 2020.
3. Petitioner timely requested a hearing in writing as to the license denial on September 2, 2020.
4. The Department sent the Petitioner a notice of hearing on September 10, 2020.
5. The Department denied Mr. Cook's producer license because he was convicted of several felonies. Specifically, in 2012, the Union County Circuit Court convicted Mr. Cook of residential burglary, a B felony, for which he received probation. In the same year, the Court revoked Mr. Cook's probation and sentenced him to 36 months incarceration. In 2015, the same court convicted Mr. Cook of breaking or entering, a D felony, and sentenced him to sixty months of incarceration. In 2018, Mr. Cook was charged with felony fleeing and failure to appear in Pulaski County Circuit Court. He was convicted of both of these charges and received probation.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

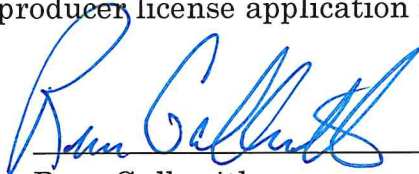
From the Findings of Fact contained herein, the Commissioner concludes as follows:

1. The Commissioner of Insurance has jurisdiction pursuant to the Arkansas Insurance Code, specifically Ark. Code Ann. §§ 23-60-101, *et seq.*
2. To be licensed as an insurance producer, § 23-64-506(c) requires that an applicant must be deemed by the commissioner "to be competent, trustworthy, financially responsible, and of good personal and business reputation."
3. An insurance producer license application may be denied where the applicant has been convicted of a felony as per § 23-64-512(a)(6).
4. The circumstances leading to Petitioner's felony convictions for burglary and breaking and entering call into question his fitness to be a licensed insurance producer.
5. The Petitioner has not presented sufficient evidence that he meets the requirements to be a licensed insurance producer.

RECOMMENDATION OF HEARING OFFICER

WHEREFORE, upon consideration of the evidence of record and the foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the Hearing officer recommends the following:

That the Arkansas insurance producer license application of the Petitioner be denied.



Russ Galbraith
Chief Deputy Commissioner

CERTIFICATION

I, Alan McClain, Insurance Commissioner for the State of Arkansas, do hereby certify that the above Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Recommendation of the Hearing Officer were made by and under my authority and supervision by Russ Galbraith, Chief Deputy Commissioner and Hearing Officer in

this proceeding. I hereby adopt the Hearing Officer's Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Recommendation in full, as set forth herein.

THEREFORE, it is hereby ORDERED that the Arkansas insurance producer license application of Mr. Jared Cook is denied.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 12th DAY OF October, 2020.



ALAN MCCLAIN
INSURANCE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF ARKANSAS